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## PREFACE

This guidance is the fifth part (Part E) in the series *Risk Assessment Guidance for Superfund: Volume I - Human Health Evaluation Manual* (RAGS/HHEM) (U.S. EPA, 1989). Part A of this guidance describes how to conduct a site-specific baseline risk assessment. Part B provides guidance for calculating risk-based concentrations that may be used, along with applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs) and other information, to develop preliminary remediation goals (PRGs) during project scoping. PRGs and final remediation levels can be used throughout the analyses in Part C to assist in evaluating the human health risks of remedial alternatives. Part D complements the guidance provided in Parts A, B and C and presents approaches to standardizing risk assessment planning, reporting and review. Part E is intended to provide a consistent methodology for assessing the dermal pathway for Superfund human health risk assessments. It incorporates and updates principles of the EPA interim report, *Dermal Exposure Assessment: Principles and Applications* (U.S. EPA, 1992a).

Several appendices are included in this guidance to support the summary calculations presented in the main body of the document (Appendix A), to provide physical constants for specific chemicals (Appendix B), and to provide tables for screening chemicals for the pathway (Appendix C). Appendix D provides sample calculations.